

The Orient.

Vol. VI., No. 46

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE, November 17, 1915.

Price, One Piastre

THE QUEST FOR A MESSAGE.

(Rev. W. M. Macgregor, D. D., has a most helpful article in the October *International Review of Missions* under the above title, from which we give some extracts.)

The present situation is so monstrous that many people find difficulty in reconciling it with any thought of the divine government or the divine goodness. Some are asking why God should allow such things, whilst others are at a loss to conceive of any message of good will which would not sound shallow and incredible in presence of them. No man can pretend to see to the end of these confusions, and an impatient sense of the futility of talking grows upon the mind. For the present, it seems to many as if it were enough blindly to work their way through, leaving it to those who come after to consider what gospel, or if any gospel, may then be left to the world. It is clear that such a mood must check all missionary enthusiasm, for how are men to present to a critical population a religion which appears on the surface to have so utterly failed them in their time of need?

This mood is not quite a novelty, and it finds dramatic expression and rebuke in a curious fragment of a dialogue which appears in the prelude to the second part of Isaiah (xl. 6-8): "The voice of one saying, 'Cry aloud,' and another answered, 'What shall I cry when all flesh is grass and all its goodness is like a wild flower? The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people is grass.' 'Aye, the grass does wither, the flower does fade, but the word of our God abides for ever.'" The hampering question recurs, What could I say fit for such a time as this? To this question Isaiah gives reply. Admitting all the pity and the tragedy of life, he declares that there is still something worth proclaiming.

This testing of a message by the situation is an obvious part of the morality of preaching. No one has the right to challenge the attention of his fellows at any vague emotional impulse. "A voice said Cry! and another answered, What shall I cry?" The words I have are clearly too facile, so I must keep silence until I can find something to match the facts, a message which will not make me ashamed when I give it utterance.

The prophet discovered what he desired in "the word of our God which abideth for ever," and if in our present diffi-

culty we are to share his courage we must explore afresh the message brought to the world by our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. First of all, it should be noted that Jesus deliberately proclaimed His gospel in face of just such facts as commonly bewilder and silence His weaker followers—sin and pain and death. He had them in view from the beginning. The weakness of much of our religious teaching is that it has been conceived in a abstract, student's world; and often a preacher never realizes how irrelevant his thinking is to actual situations until, somewhere in his audience, he catches sight of a stricken creature. But that is enough. It is a mark of grace in him if he leaves his discourse unfinished when he has thus discovered that it does not meet the facts.

The words of Jesus were not of this sort; they were experience coined into speech. Our Lord saw the evil, and He was swept by righteous indignation; but He had eyes for something else. Even on the surface He enjoyed what those who yield to gloom or anger are apt to miss. Because tomorrow was threatening, He would not lose the sunshine of today; though many Scribes and Pharisees were pretenders, He did not regard all children as hypocrites in the making. In this He gives a lesson of sanity to all distracted periods, forbidding men to ignore the gladness of the daylight because of dreary interspaces of gloom, and teaching them to be a little fair to God who makes His sun to rise on the evil as on good. Our Lord dealt with things as they are, neither shirking nor exaggerating any dark and ugly fact; and thus He has left to us what Wordsworth calls "a message fit to be transmitted," which none need fear in any conditions to publish as a gospel.

2. But going further, our Lord Jesus laid hands on the hard and cruel-seeming things, and, turning them round, He revealed to His friends another side of them which was clear and radiant; and St. Paul was not traveling beyond the teaching of his Master when he said that "All things work together for good to them that love God."

Jesus was concerned not merely with what is seen but with deeper things which lie out of sight. Whilst we stop at the ugly and oppressive fact, He pushed on to take account of hidden facts of a higher order which lay beyond. One day He came upon a man blind from his birth, and thus cut off from so large a part of the interest and the joy of living; he was of necessity dependent on the grudging charity of strangers. What a long continued injury life on such terms

must be! What can it mean in any righteous administration? "Neither he sinned nor his parents," said Jesus, "but that the works of God might be manifested in him." Dark things, in His view, had always another side, an intention of God not completed as yet but drawing towards completion; and if we are to help our fellows, if we are even to bear ourselves with worthiness in a tragic situation, we must learn from Jesus to think and to speak more bravely of these dark things. The very obtrusiveness of the present perplexities should force us back on strong and beneficent things lying unconsidered, in the background, — the simplifying of life, the deepening of affection, the revived sense of duty, the return to God and prayer; many works of God are manifest in our day, and they are the other side of the bitterness and the catastrophe.

3. But not only have the dark things another side, our Lord assures us that it is this other side which is of lasting account. "The slight trouble of the passing hour," says Paul, "works out for us a glory beyond all comparison, both solid and enduring, that is, if we look at unseen things and not at what is seen; for the seen is transient, whilst the unseen is eternal."

Frequently in the Old Testament the perishing race of men and the abiding life of God are set sharply side by side, and the contrast is sufficiently pathetic. It looks as if man were of no account, in his coming and departure. Human life, when it is thus recorded, has a pitiful air of ineffectualness; and men have often been paralyzed in their activity by the sense of the imminence of doom, and they have no heart to begin in the face of that perpetual threat. Death reigns, and that fact shadows all. But Jesus was much more inclined to say that life reigns. The seed dies, it is true, but only in order that it may more abundantly live. Goethe says that "Death is nature's expert contrivance for getting abundance of life," and no one who has learned from Jesus how to think of life and death will stumble at the paradox. "I am come that ye might have life, and abundance of it," was a saying of His own, but that abundant life was gained for the world by means of the blackness of eclipse. He knew the dark night of the soul, but He also knew the gladness of the morning; so we must learn from His word and from His life to trust more constantly in the victory of life and light and love, even though for the moment these may be driven out of sight.

"A voice saying, Cry; and another answered, What can I cry when death and sorrow and darkness stop my mouth? Tell men this at least that God's word is strong to break the power and the fear of death." To the messages of Jesus time has proved friend and minister, for one perplexity has been cleared and then another. Life and love are always found the stronger if time is given to them. And thus it comes that His word maintains its credit as "a message fit to be transmitted," able to endure the searching test of proclamation even in an evil day.

Dr. Thom, Dr. Andrus and Miss Fenenga of Mardin have arrived in Sivas, having come by way of Harpout, and are visiting the American missionaries there.

THE OTTOMAN PARLIAMENT.

43rd session, Nov. 11th. The president, Hadji Adil Bey, announced to the assembly that on the first day of Mouharrem (the Moslem New Year's Day) he went to the Imperial Palace to lay at the foot of the Imperial Throne the felicitations of the Chamber, and that His Majesty, pleased at this step, had charged him to transmit to the representatives of the nation his salutations and his best wishes. The Chamber received these words with a thunder of applause. A bill to contract a loan in Germany of Lt. 2,112,000 for the construction of the Baghdad Railroad, was referred to the proper committee; also another dealing with the levying of customs taxes according to the weight of articles imported. To another committee was referred the bill abolishing the agreement made with France. Two more deputies had their elections made valid, and leave of absence was accorded to three others. The bill as to the debts of Ottoman subjects to subjects of belligerent powers was passed, also two pension bills and a modification of the civil code, Art. 39.

44th session, Nov. 13th. The first sitting of the third legislature closed today, with a short session. A bill to add 20,000,000 piastres to the budget of the ministry of foreign affairs for the year 1329 (1913) was referred to the committee on finance. Three newly elected deputies for Kengare and Shabun Kara Hissar had their elections made valid. Talaat Bey, Minister of the Interior, then took the platform and read the Imperial decree announcing the closing of the first sitting of the third legislature, and fixing the opening of the next for the following day, November first old style, at one in the afternoon; and the Parliament was declared closed.

In the Senate the same announcement on the part of His Majesty was made by Ibrahim Bey, Minister of Justice. This was preceded by the announcement through imperial *irade* of the nomination of the former president, Rifaat Bey, to the presidency of the upper house, and of Sherif Ali Haidar Bey as first vice-president, and Abdurrahman Sheref Bey as second vice-president, for the ensuing session.

NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

The Ottoman Parliament has been sitting since September 28th, to finish out the unexpired first sitting of the third Ottoman Parliament. This came to an end with the end of October, 1331; and last Sunday, the first of November, old style, the new sitting was formally opened with the usual ceremony.

By one o'clock the members of Parliament were assembled; and the members of the diplomatic corps, the literary delegation from Syria, the apostolic delegate, representatives of the non-Moslem communities, and many high dignitaries of state were gathered as well. The Senators and Deputies occupied the floor of the house. At two o'clock, the Sultan arrived, escorted by a squad of the Imperial guard. The imperial princes, headed by the Heir Presumptive, followed in other carriages, the whole forming an impressive cortege.

As soon as His Majesty had taken his place in the great hall, Fouad Bey, his first secretary, read from the rostrum the Speech from the Throne. We give the translation in full:—

HONORABLE SENATORS AND DEPUTIES:

The events that have taken place since December first have, thank God, realized the hopes that I expressed in my Imperial Speech at that date, as they have also fulfilled the wish that I then expressed, that these events might assure the safety and happiness of the whole Moslem world and of the Ottomans.

The violent attacks by the land and sea forces of the English and French against the Dardanelles and the Gallipoli peninsula, with a view to helping to realize the dreams of invasion that the Russians have cherished and tried to carry out vigorously for two and a half centuries against Constantinople and the Straits, have been repulsed by the resistance, self-denying courage and sacrifices of my army and my fleet, which have most gloriously shed a new and brilliant effulgence on the feats of arms of our venerable ancestors, and have won the admiration of the entire world. Our enemies have suffered frightful and enormous losses.

This defeat of our enemies having given rise to the universal conviction that the way to Constantinople was impassable, has compelled our haughty enemies to seek aid from the Balkan States. It has served to frustrate all the intrigues plotted in the Peninsula; has helped our powerful allies to repulse the Russian armies in the Carpathians and to hurl them out of Galicia and Poland, to destroy all the strongholds of our ancient foe, and to annihilate all the hopes that the Triple Entente had founded on the Russian forces.

Bowing in acknowledgement before the Almighty who has enabled the Ottoman army to regain in so brilliant a manner its glory and honor, I express to Him thanksgiving and pray Him besides to grant final victory likewise to my other soldiers who with self-denial are defending the frontiers of their fatherland on other sides.

While the glorious allied armies, after capturing with astonishing regularity and bravery all the Russian fortresses and breaking the offensive of the Russian armies, turned towards the Balkans, the armies of Bulgaria also joined them. This important event, which has transformed the Triple Alliance into a Quadruple Alliance, has hastened the coming of ultimate victory.

In order to facilitate and thus assure the development in our favor of the Balkan situation, we have consented to a rectification of the frontier with our neighbors. The convention concluded on this subject has been submitted for the approval of your assembly.

The most important part of Servia is today occupied by the allied armies and so the communications by way of the Danube have been assured, and the Berlin-Vienna-Constantinople road is open. I give thanks and glory to God for this happy establishment of communications, which will ensure to the allied nations victory in time of war, and progress and happiness in time of peace.

I express my satisfaction at the help that the National

Assembly is giving unanimously, in these difficult times, to our imperial government. I expect that the bills that have been drawn up as a consequence of the state of war, and which have been submitted to you, will be examined speedily, as well as the budget and the laws regarding loans.

Our political relations with our allies rest and will rest upon a reciprocal confidence and sincerity that is growing every day. Our common policy toward our enemies will be to continue the war, mutually helping each other on all the fronts and at all points, until we succeed in securing for our countries and our peoples an advantageous peace that will permit the complete development of all our personal and natural capacities. Our relations with the neutral States are, as before, sincere and friendly.

I pray the Almighty to grant success to the laudable efforts that you are putting forth for the well-being of the State and the country, and I declare the Parliament open.

The Speech was greeted with applause, after which the *Nakib-ül-Eshraf* recited a prayer, and His Majesty left the Parliament House.

The Chamber then proceeded to elect its officers, the eldest Deputy present presiding. Hadji Adil Bey was reelected president, by 151 votes out of 162, and Emir Ali Pacha was elected 1st vice-president, and Hüssein Djahid Bey, 2nd vice-president. After Hadji Adil Bey had expressed his gratification at this mark of confidence, the Chamber adjourned till next Monday.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

The new Greek Cabinet came into office last week, but it was immediately apparent that it could not work in connection with the Chamber of Deputies. The King therefore exercised his prerogative and dissolved the Chamber. New elections have been ordered for December 19th. In the mean while the Hellenic government has asked the Entente powers for a new loan of forty million francs and at last accounts these powers were considering whether to grant this or not.

A Milli Agency telegram from Berlin says that according to news from London an active exchange of views has taken place at Athens between the representatives of the Entente Powers and the Greek government. The ministers of England, France and Russia have had interviews with Mr. Skouloudes, the new Premier, to which great importance is attached. These representatives are said to have demanded that Greece state precisely what her position is with reference to the eventual retiring of the Entente troops on to Greek territory. The Greek response has not yet been revealed.

England and France continue to land troops at Salonica, and these are being pushed forward against the Bulgarians. The British have established a new camp some ten kilometres from Salonica for their men. A letter to the *Hilal* from Salonica of November 6th places the number of French and British troops landed there at 90,000, with 30 or 40 field guns and five or six siege guns.

THE OTTOMAN CAMPAIGN.

The despatch of the 9th says:—

"At the Dardanelles the usual firing continues. At Anafarta our artillery destroyed a large-calibre gun of the foe, placed at the mouth of Kereviz Valley, as well as the bomb station north of Mestan Tepe. At Aru Bournou, Süngü Bair a violent bomb contest and infantry firing took place. In this section our artillery fired effectively on the enemy's trenches. At Sed-el-Bahr the hostile artillery was directed against the trenches on our left wing and caused insignificant injuries. On the other hand our artillery effectively bombarded the enemy's bomb stations and the troops of the enemy at work. In this section there was a feeble artillery duel, later becoming intense, and bomb-throwing. Two of the enemy's monitors and a torpedo-boat were taking an ineffective part in this firing."

The despatch of the 10th says:—

"Nothing important took place at the Dardanelles save a cannonade. Our artillery compelled three hostile transports at Kemikli Harbor to withdraw and destroyed a bomb mortar at Sed-el-Bahr. A mine that we exploded on the left wing completely destroyed an advance trench of the foe."

The despatch of the 11th says:—

"At the Dardanelles there was an exchange of fire in the three sections. At Anafarta our patrols the night before last engaged the strong patrols of the enemy, and compelled these to flee to their positions, inflicting losses on them. At Aru Bournou we reduced to silence the enemy's artillery at the mouth of Kourkou Dere. At Sed-el-Bahr a mine that the enemy exploded on the left wing had a negative result, destroying a part of their own trenches. We compelled two hostile monitors to withdraw that were trying to fire on us from the direction of the Gulf of Saros."

"At the Caucasus front there was no event save a fight between patrols."

The despatch of the 12th says:—

"At the Dardanelles, thanks to the new counter-measures taken by the Ottoman fleet, the English submarine E 20 was sunk on Oct. 23rd at the Dardanelles; we took prisoner from its crew three officers and six soldiers. The E 20, which is one of the most modern type of English submarines, has been seen for two months at the Dardanelles. Its length is 61 metres; weight, 800 tons, speed on the surface, 19 knots; submerged, 14 knots; the submarine had four torpedo tubes, and two rapid-fire guns of 7.6 cm. calibre. Its crew numbered thirty men."

"By the fire of our artillery we compelled the hostile monitors that were trying to bombard the gulf of Saros to retire several times. At Anafarta our artillery forced away the enemy's ships that were seen at Kemikli Harbor. The hostile torpedo-boat that went ashore in this harbor on the 23rd October, has completely sunk. At Aru Bournou we destroyed the enemy's bomb station at Kanli Sert. At Sed-el-Bahr our artillery did serious damage to the enemy's troops as they were placing wire entanglements before our left wing. At the

Anafartas and at Sed-el-Bahr a cruiser and a monitor took an ineffective part in the usual bombardment."

The despatch of the 13th says:—

"The local firing at the Dardanelles continued at intervals yesterday and the day before. The reply of our artillery against the enemy's trenches was effective. Two torpedo-boats at the Anafartas, a cruiser and a torpedo-boat at Aru Bournou participated in the enemy's bombardment, but without effect. Our Asiatic batteries successfully bombarded the enemy's troops in the region of Sed-el-Bahr and Merto Harbor."

The despatch of the 14th says:—

"At the Dardanelles the usual exchange of artillery fire continued at intervals, and the exchange of bombs. Our artillery hit twice with shells one of the two monitors that came near the shores of the Gulf of Saros, and started a conflagration on board. Upon this, the monitor in question withdrew rapidly. The other one was also constrained by the fire of our guns to withdraw."

The despatch of the 15th says:—

"On the Dardanelles front, the usual artillery duel and bomb-throwing continues at intervals."

"On the Caucasus front, one of our patrols drew into an ambush near Milo a detachment of about 100 of the enemy, and compelled them to flee after losing about fifty in killed and wounded."

ATTITUDE OF NEW GREEK CABINET.

A Stefani Agency despatch is quoted as saying that the Hellenic minister at Rome has informed Signor Sonnino, the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, that the new cabinet is determined to follow the same foreign policy as its predecessor. The essential basis of the attitude observed by Greece since the beginning of the European war, will remain the same. In the present situation the maintenance of armed neutrality is necessary to safeguard the vital interests of Greece. Mr. Skouloudes, President of the Hellenic Council, gives the most formal assurance that the Hellenic government is firmly decided to keep up its attitude of benevolent neutrality toward the powers of the Entente, and hopes that they will not allow themselves to be influenced in the least by evil and misleading reports spread in the vain hope of disturbing the friendly relations between Greece and the Entente. The Hellenic government knows its own interests too well to depart from the line of conduct indicated by the former declarations of Mr. Zaimis, and reiterates its friendly feeling toward the Allied troops at Salonica.

CALENDAR OF ENGLISH PREACHING SERVICES.

Sunday, November 21st, 1915.

BEBEK CHURCH, 11 a. m., Mr. Owen E. Pence.
UNION CHURCH, Pera, 11 a. m., Rev. Robert Frew, D.D.
ROBERT COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Rev. George H. Huntington.
CONSULE COLLEGE, 11 a. m., Mr. Luther R. Fowle.

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A weekly record of the religious, educational, political, economic and other interests of the Ottoman Empire and the Near East.

Subscription Price:—

Within the Ottoman Empire, Lt. 1/4 per annum.

Foreign Countries \$ 1.50 or 6 s. or fr 7.50.

Single Copies, 1 piastre or 4 cents or 2 pence.

Subscriptions may begin at any time during the year.

Advertising rates sent on application.

Remittances from abroad should be by International Post Office Money Order when possible; but cheques or stamps will be accepted.

All communications and payments for subscriptions should be addressed to the Editor,

Charles T. Riggs

Bible House, Constantinople.

BIBLE HOUSE, CONSTANTINOPLE. NOVEMBER 17, 1915.

EDITORIAL.

Next week comes the annual Thanksgiving Day. What a time in which to give thanks to God! It will perhaps strike many that it is about as easy to be thankful under the existing circumstances as it was for poor Job to be thankful in the midst of his calamities. Yet there are very many reasons for devout thanks to Almighty God. Each one of us has personal mercies that cannot be forgotten. As Americans, we have many national blessings that we should not forget. We shall not attempt to enumerate these here, and so forestall the various sermons that will be thought out for next Thursday. We would rather try to indicate that our Thanksgiving should not merely be personal, but that we need to help one another to realize now our united causes for gratitude, and get other people as well to look in grateful recognition to the Father of Mercies. Let our thankfulness be of the congregational variety rather than of the closet kind. We may pray in secret a most earnest prayer of thanksgiving; but let our joy be rather of the contagious sort, that we may say: "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men." Let us get together for the purpose of showing each other how many subjects there are for devout gratitude, and the day may be indeed a happy one for us.

BIOGRAPHIES OF EARLY MISSIONARIES.

XIV. PHILANDER O. POWERS.

The subject of this sketch was a native of Phillipston, Mass., born August 19th, 1805. He studied at Amherst College, graduating in 1830, and at Andover Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1834. In November of the same year, he sailed as a missionary of the American Board

to Turkey. Arriving in Smyrna after a voyage of sixty-three days, he went to Brousa as a colleague of Mr. Schneider in that new station. With the exception of a year spent in America, 1841 to 1842, he remained in Brousa and vicinity till 1845. He was fond of visiting in the homes of the people, and gave much time to evangelistic tours. His fine taste and unusual talent in the line of music and poetry was put to good service in Brousa, where he gave considerable time and skill to composing or translating hymns. Many of the best hymns in Turkish are from his facile pen. At the request of the mission, he undertook the revision and enlargement of the Armeno-Turkish hymnbook.

In 1845 the mission invited Mr. and Mrs. Powers to move to Trebizond, where Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bliss had been left alone; and they responded, reaching their new station in November. For a time Mr. Powers acted as pastor of the evangelical church there; but a large share of his time was spent in journeys among the scattered communities of northern Asia Minor, for at that time the Board had established mission stations only at Constantinople, Smyrna, Brousa and Trebizond. He paid long visits to Tokat, where the grave of Henry Martyn made him feel that there should be continuous evangelistic work; also to Marsovan and Sivas, the immediate occupation of both of which he advocated.

After an interval of fourteen years, he paid another visit to the United States, remaining two years. At the close of this furlough, the call came to change once more his place of missionary work, and he willingly accepted the judgment of his colleagues and went to Antioch, in northern Syria. Here he was in charge of the outstation work, and had to spend much time in the saddle, visiting every place in the region, and having the supervision of Ourfa as well. Part of the time he resided in Kessab, and again in Ourfa, and later on in Marash; and his long experience and sound judgment were everywhere of great usefulness. The health of his wife compelled their return to America in 1861; but the best medical skill did not avail, and she passed away January 2nd, 1862. He had settled as a pastor in East Windsor, Conn., on her account; and the congregation there became very much attached to him, while he on his part was very happy in his work with them. Yet even this delightful pastoral relation did not stand in the way of a call of duty. This came in the shape of a proposition that he go back again to take up his work in Antioch. He accepted the invitation, though it meant the severing of most pleasant relations when he was already over sixty years of age, and a return to Turkey alone. The self-sacrifice of his nature was clearly shown, but it was no part of his thought to show it. Returning, he went to Marash, and was again indefatigable in visiting the various parts of the Central Turkey field. Thus he labored on for six years more, till the call came to the higher service. He died October 2nd, 1872, at Kessab, in the house he had himself built, and the funeral was conducted in the church edifice that he had been instrumental in erecting. His attendant physician, Dr. Nutting, said: "During all his sickness he manifested unwavering faith and cheerful hope, perfect calmness and seren-

ity." He quoted at the last Paul's historic words: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith," etc., adding with characteristic modesty, "Yet I do not trust to anything I have done for salvation, but only to the atonement of Christ." The end came only a few hours before his daughter, Miss Harriet G. Powers, hurrying from the Mediterranean on her return from the United States, arrived at his bedside.

During his last years his hearers testify that he preached with unusual earnestness and fervor; and it is believed that these efforts were the means of awakening some sinners and recovering some backsliders. The funeral was attended by a large number of friends from the whole region.

Dr. Benjamin Schneider, his earliest colleague, says of him: "A distinguished trait of his character was sound sense and excellent judgment. When acquainted with all the circumstances of a case, his opinion could always be relied upon. Not impulsive, but cool and calm, he made up his mind deliberately, and in general very correctly. This characteristic was especially apparent in one of the spheres of his labor. The circumstances were peculiarly difficult and delicate. Two parties in the church and congregation, for a long time at variance, were to be reconciled. The least misstep, or any hasty and spirited remark, might have set the whole community in motion; but he was a man of too much prudence to commit such a mistake. He was quick to see his opportunity, and knew when and how to act, and it was, under God, owing greatly to his judicious management that the way was smoothed for a settlement of the difficulties. Kind and conciliatory both with the missionaries and with the natives, while he had his own views, he paid all due respect to the judgment of others. He was able to make allowance for others and could bear with any want of judgment, or any weakness on their part; yet when it was necessary, he was very firm, and unyielding to any improper demands. He had a self-sacrificing spirit. This appeared in the readiness with which he left one missionary field, after having become comfortably settled in it, for another. While he was peculiarly appreciative of the comforts of home, he never suffered them to interfere with or keep him from his work at a distance."

THE GENERAL WAR.

From the western battlefield there has been even less news than usual this week. The Germans report taking an outlying French trench 200 metres long, northeast of Ecurie, and record some aeroplane engagements; but aside from this there is nothing.

In the northeast, the Russians have been attacking south and west of Riga, and west of Jacobstadt and Dunaburg, threatening the town of Kemmern, but all these attacks appear to have been repulsed. Floods drove the Germans back from the wooded region west and southwest of Schlock. The Russians have also tried an attack near Smorgon, east of Wilna, but with no success apparent. Along the Styr, west

and northwest of Czartorysk, the long series of Russian attacks and Austrian counter-attacks of the past four weeks has resulted in the Russians being driven back again across to the east side of the Styr river near Czartorysk and Rafalowka. Farther south, the Russians are still attacking along the Strypa river, in Galicia, north of Jaslowiec, but unsuccessfully.

The Italian bombardment of the Gorice bridge and of Tolmein, and the fierce attacks on the Doberdo plateau still continue, but all their efforts seem to be in vain, for the Austrians assert that they still hold all their former positions, having inflicted heavy losses on the invaders. There has been fighting also in the Dolomite country and in the Tyrol.

The Servians have been driven still farther back into their fastnesses by the combined German-Austrian-Bulgarian attacks. The allied armies now hold Alexandrovatz, southwest of Krushevatz, and Ivanitza, southeast of Ushitza, and fighting is going on in the valleys of the Ibar, Rasina and Toplica rivers. The Bulgarians have come to the region of Prokuplie, west of Nish, and have crossed the Morava in several places. They have taken the town of Veles (Keuprülü), west of Ishtib; and they are withstanding the French and British along the Gradsko-Krivolak-Strumitza line. The Entente troops had crossed to the west bank of the Kara Sou, but at last accounts had been driven back again, by the Bulgarians.

On the sea, the Germans report sinking a Russian minesweeper at the mouth of the Gulf of Riga, and also a French torpedo-boat north of Dunkerque.

KITCHENER AND CHURCHILL.

The despatches of the past week indicate that Lord Kitchener, who has left England for the Mediterranean, may be going not merely to Salonica, but to several other points as well. It has even been hinted that he might go on to India. A Geneva despatch says that he was in Rome on the 13th, and was to go from there to Antivari, Salonica, Gevgeli, Kavalla, and then the Dardanelles, and later on to the Suez Canal. A great deal of importance is attached to this journey. From London comes the word that a commission of five will have charge of the conduct of the war in the absence of Lord Kitchener.

Last Saturday the resignation of Mr. Winston Churchill, formerly First Lord of the Admiralty and since then connected with the War Office, was announced. It is supposed that his policy has been subjected to such severe criticism that he has felt compelled by the force of public opinion to take this step. In his letter of resignation he states that he had been promised a position on the Council of War, but had not been given the place, and so considered his services not needed. Mr. Asquith received his resignation with expressions of regret.

EMPIRE NEWS. THE CAPITAL.

Count Wolff-Metternich zum Gracht, the new German Ambassador to the Sublime Porte, arrived in Constantinople last Saturday. The Count was formerly German Ambassador to London.

The captured French submarine "Turquoise," taken recently at the Dardanelles has been re-named the "Mustedjib On Bashi" and has been incorporated in the Ottoman navy.

The prefecture of this city has given word that "pain de luxe," or what is ordinarily known as *birra franjola*, or white bread made with hop yeast, is allowed on condition that such bread prepared without butter shall be sold at three piastres the kilo, and that prepared with butter and egg at four piastres the kilo; and that loaves shall be made at ten, twenty and forty paras; and that bread sold under this name of other flour, as well as that of short weight, will be confiscated, and the dealers punished.

The *Hilal* announces that last Friday during the big thunder-storm, lightning struck the minaret of the Piri Azizi Hidai mosque at Scutari, damaging the top of the minaret.

NOTES.

The marriage is announced of Miss Kate Ethel Chambers, daughter of Rev. W. Nesbitt Chambers, D.D., of Adana, and Rev. Laurens Hickok Seelye, on October 4th in the chapel of Union Theological Seminary, New York. Mr. Seelye is pastor of the Congregational church of Chatham, N.J.

The sad news has come of the death of Rev. Francis H. Leslie, of the Central Turkey Mission. Mr. Leslie came out to Turkey just four years ago this month; he was a native of Northport, Michigan, and a graduate of Fargo College, and had several years experience in the Congregational ministry before coming here. He went back in 1913 and was married to Miss Elvesta Thomas, who with their little daughter survives him. They have been carrying on the work begun by Miss Shattuck.

Mrs. Margaret R. Trowbridge and Mr. C. F. Ranney have left Aintab and will spend the winter with Rev. Stephen V. R. Trowbridge, her younger son. With them went also Miss Frearson of Aintab.

OTHER LANDS.

Mrs. Gerard, wife of the American Ambassador at Berlin, has been given by the Kaiser the first and second class medals of the Red Cross.

The international conference of the Red Cross will take place shortly in Stockholm. The main theme for discussion, we are told, will be the problem of the exchange of prisoners.

An Associated Press despatch from Washington is quoted to the effect that the Nizam of Haiderabad has been deposed from his position by his people.

A Reuter despatch states that one of the largest factories at the Bethlehem (Pa.) steel works has been destroyed by fire, supposed to be incendiary.

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